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Rudi Matthee



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- ¹ This penetrating article seeks to place the traditional Ḥaydarī-Ne'matī clashes that plagued Iran's urban centers between the 15th century until late Qajar times in a comparative perspective. Struck by the seeming arbitrariness and lack of obvious motivation – no vendetta-style conflicts here – the author argues that these altercations must be seen as outlets of youthful aggression, rituals accompanying the stressful transition from adolescence to adulthood and played out in turf wars. These brawls over honor and prestige can, despite the religious overtones, be compared to modern soccer hooliganism.

INDEX

Thèmes : 4.2.1. Safavides et Qâjârs

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